

Minutes
Jan. 19, 1993
City of Elgin Public Relations Committee
7:00 PM

Citizens in Attendance:

Councilor Kevin Cooper, Committee Chair
Mayor Kathy Gifford
Councilor Mary A. Connely
City Administrator Joe Garlitz
Paul Gifford
Christine McLaughlin
Dennis Cooper and son
Jackie Crosser
Sue McMurdo
Al Smolkowski
Maureen Smolkowski
Jim Ludwig
Ed Rotz
Russell Hug
Josephine Hug

Chair Cooper opened the meeting at 7:06 PM. Chair Cooper introduced the meeting as an open process to gather ideas on possible projects of importance to the community and to select a small number of projects as priorities for the community. This was followed by introductions.

An informal discussion was initiated on several projects which were identified by the "community response team" and their potential impact on the community. This was followed by a lengthy discussion of past development efforts, other projects that should be considered, and community assets. A consensus was reached that Elgin had many positive assets which other communities in Eastern Oregon were striving to add to their communities. These include a swimming pool, community center, progressive school district, new waste water treatment facility, and adequate water system.

Another informal discussion of potential roadblocks to development were summarized as a poor image of the community. There were two resolutions suggested: 1) don't tolerate negative attitudes about the community and 2) create several positive developments or activities in the community as evidence that the community had potential for a great future.

Chair Cooper then asked those present to list projects which had been discussed earlier and any other projects which should be considered. Garlitz had received a list of community assets, liabilities and project ideas which were forwarded by Peg Fortenberry and read the list to the committee. Some of these ideas were added to those projects listed earlier in the meeting.

A list of all projects was compiled and is attached. After all projects were listed, Chair Cooper suggested a small number of projects be selected as "those most important to the community" and rank them most to least important. An arbitrary number of six projects was suggested and accepted as a limit to be prioritized from the larger list.

Projects were selected and approved by consensus for each priority on the list. The committee also decided to increase the number of selected projects to include an additional project. The projects selected are listed in order from highest to lowest priority as follows;

1. Community Newspaper
- X 2. RV Park & Raft Launch Project (Hunaha Park) *jobs*
3. Cedar Street Improvements
4. Water Line Extension to Industrial Area - *job P.W.*
5. Downtown Rejuvenation - *City Hall Homeless access*
6. Downtown Fountain Park Project
7. Elgin Community News Broadcasts on Elgin TV Cable

These projects were then reviewed for possible county development plan consideration. The committee agreed by consensus to forward projects # 2 & 4 to the county for their consideration.

With no other business, the committee adjourned at 10:07 PM.

Submitted by Kevin Cooper, Chair

1. RV Park & Raft Launch (Hunaha Park)
2. Community Newspaper
3. Downtown Fountain Park w/ improvements
4. 10" water line to Industrial Area
5. Murals on city buildings
6. Develop RV Dump Site into city park
7. Reconstruct the "Elgin Stockade"
8. Improve/Restore Store Fronts
9. Elgin Community News Broadcasts on Elgin TV Cable
10. Cedar Street Improvements
11. Develop several Pocket Parks
12. Inventory Existing Building Lots
13. Placement of Signs to Areas of Interest in Town
14. Get a Bank that will Support the Community
15. Business Incubator Building
16. Historic District
17. Facelift of City Hall *
18. Chamber of Commerce Brochures
19. Community Volunteer Information Network
20. Downtown Rejuvenation

Notes:

- a. Projects # 8, 16, and 17 were combined as one project (Project 20).
- b. Some projects not selected for ranking were to be followed up or completed by other persons or entities.

